



Sheila Dixon
President,
Baltimore City Council

100 N. Holliday Street, Room 400 • Baltimore Maryland 21202
410-396-4804 • Fax: 410-539-0647

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 20, 2006

CONTACT:
Ruffin Brown
443-984-3808 (desk)

Incoming Mayor Sheila Dixon Announces More Senior Positions for her New Administration

Talent, Experience Drawn to Dixon's Vision for Baltimore

Baltimore, MD (December 20, 2006) – City Council President and incoming Mayor Sheila Dixon announced today four more Cabinet-level appointments to help her implement the priorities and initiatives of her new Administration. Mayor-designee Dixon has chosen Chris Thomaskutty to direct the CitiStat Office and Demaune Millard to direct her Office of Government Relations. Dixon also tapped Mary Pat Fannon from *Baltimore Main Streets* to serve as deputy director of Government Relations. Finally, Mayor-designee Dixon announced that Edward J. Gallagher, the City's Director of Finance for the past two years, would remain with her new Administration.

“These appointments reflect the energy and optimism that people have for Baltimore right now. Like Ed Gallagher, Chris, Demaune and Mary Pat could easily do well in the private sector. But I think it says something about their commitment and passion for their City, that they each chose to join me in keeping Baltimore moving forward,” said Mayor-designee Dixon.

Chris Thomaskutty, deputy director of CitiStat, is most recently credited with assisting the Baltimore City Public School System (BCPSS) with completing \$40 million in renovations at 40 school locations – more capital improvements in one summer than in previous two years combined. Thomaskutty also had the responsibility of improving service delivery and increasing efficiency in three city departments: Solid Waste, Waste and Wastewater; and Transportation. Before coming to Baltimore, Thomaskutty helped two other cities create performance management systems.

“Chris is the answer to a number of very important questions as I look to optimize my human and financial resources. Chris' first hand experiences, building and managing SchoolStat, will undoubtedly be called upon as well as the fact that he's come through the ranks as a CitiStat analyst,” stated Dixon. “As a protégé of outgoing Director Matt Gallagher, Chris also has been trained to look for those small inefficiencies that make a big difference in the bottom line.”

Currently with the American Public Transportation Association, based in Washington, DC, when Demaune Millard was made a Special Assistant with the Glendening Administration in 2002, he organized the environmental community to restore \$10 million in budget cuts by the General Assembly. As a legislative analyst for the Maryland Dept of Transportation, Millard worked directly with the General Assembly to advance the Administration's \$502 million State Transit Initiative. Millard also staffed the workgroup charged with the reauthorization of the Minority

Business Enterprise (MBE) program resulting in legislation that increased Maryland's MBE participation goals from 14% to 25%.

"Having spent the past 10 years working on both the state and federal levels, both in Annapolis and Washington, Demaune brings a special combination of established relationships and first-hand experience that should prove valuable as the City strengthens its partnerships with the State and the federal government" commented Dixon.

Mary Pat Fannon, the Director of Baltimore Main Streets since 2003, has overseen the implementation of the third largest citywide Main Street program in the country. Baltimore Main Streets has given Mary Pat the opportunity to see how the federal and state legislative and funding packages are translated to "brick and mortar" commercial revitalization initiatives.

"With Mary Pat's success overseeing Baltimore's Main Street program, I think she will be a perfect complement to Demaune's experience in building federal-state partnerships. It will be important for Mary Pat to help make the economic and neighborhood development connections to meaningful legislation and funding from our state and federal partners," stated Dixon.

Edward J. Gallagher, current Director of Finance for the City of Baltimore has seen both the bare and the bountiful over his almost 25 years preparing and managing the City's budgets and finances. Mr. Gallagher came to Baltimore after serving terms as both budget and finance director for Monroe County, New York. Mr. Gallagher has received many honors and awards for his long consistent record of public service, including the Distinguished Leadership Award by the Association of Government Accounts, Baltimore Chapter. What should be more impressive to the citizens of Baltimore is the City's A+ bond rating which indicates the City's appeal to investors as a profitable business.

"Ed Gallagher has been a consistent, prudent and fiscally conservative advisor to City Hall's leaders for many years. His advice is evident in the fiscal health of the City today," commented Dixon. "His work as a budget advisor and finance director has allowed the City to continue to grow as all good businesses do. I look forward to his advice when I become Mayor."

With the additions of Fannon, Millard and Thomaskutty; the retention of Ed Gallagher; the appointments of Deputy Mayors Salima Siler-Marriott and Andrew Frank, capped off with Otis Rolley III as Chief of Staff, it is clear that Mayor-designee Dixon's vision for the future of Baltimore is attracting young, but proven professionals, as well as retaining those public servants who've done a stellar job for Baltimore over the years.

#

Please visit our website at www.baltimorecitycouncil.com